

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, June 3, 1996
MAG Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

James Kaylor, City of Glendale, Chairman	*Jack Watson, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
*Bill Bates, City of Avondale	*Connie Wilhelm, Home Builders Association of Central Arizona
Pat Sampson for Chuck Smith, City of Chandler	John Power, Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services
*Patricia Krueger, City of El Mirage	*Sarah Gibson, Motorola
*Lonnie Frost, Town of Gilbert	*Robert O'Leary, Paradise Valley Water Company
*Mayor Perry Hubbard, City of Litchfield Park	*Gene Franzoy, Phoenix Chamber of Commerce
Ralph Wisz, City of Mesa	*Kevin Wanttaja, Salt River Project
*Kevin Kadlec, City of Peoria	*Gene Cetwinski, Valley Forward Association
Gary Ullinskey for Mike Gritzuk, City of Phoenix	Eugene T. Jensen, Citizen Representative
Jim Nelson, City of Scottsdale	*Laura Watson, Citizen Representative
*Barbara Olivieri, City of Tempe	Elaine Arena, Citizen Representative
*Harry E. Craig, Town of Wickenburg	
*Terry Hudgins, Arizona Public Service Company	
*Steve Hildreth, Arizona State Land Department	

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mason Bolitho, Arizona Department of Water Resources	Jackie Nolan, Arizona Department of Water Resources
Lindy Bauer, Maricopa Association of Governments	Patrick Trusty, Maricopa Association of Governments
Bob McCain, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association	

A meeting of the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee was conducted on Monday, June 3, 1996 at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the following items:

- Annual Review of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan
- Arizona Department of Water Resources Third Management Plan

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jim Kaylor, City of Glendale, Chairman.

2. Approval of the April 30, 1996 Meeting Minutes

John Power, Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services, noted that minor corrections should be made to the April 30, 1996 minutes to reflect Ronald Ewing's, Greiner, Inc., statement to Jim Kaylor, City of Glendale, regarding who will operate the Chuparosa Wastewater Treatment Plant in Queen Creek. Mr. Ewing stated at the April 30, 1996 meeting that a State licenced operator will be in charge of, and operate, the Chuparosa small wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Power also noted that Mr. Ewing stated at the April 30, 1996 meeting, that the developer did get inverts for the main trunk line hook-up for the Chuparosa Wastewater Treatment Plant.

With the above corrections, John Power, Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services, moved to approve the April 30, 1996 meeting minutes, Jim Nelson, City of Scottsdale, seconded and it was unanimously passed by the Committee to approve the April 30, 1996 meeting minutes.

3. Annual Review of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan

Patrick Trusty, MAG indicated that the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan, which was revised by the MAG Regional Council in 1993, is the key guiding document for the MAG Regional Water Quality Management Program. Mr. Trusty then gave a presentation on the annual review of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan.

Mr. Trusty noted that, the 208 Plan contains two major sections: the Nonpoint Source Element and Point Source Element. Mr. Trusty indicated that, the Nonpoint Source Element describes program activities to control nonpoint source pollution from land disposal, agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, pesticides, and volatile organic compounds; and the Point Source Element describes the existing and future wastewater treatment systems for the local jurisdictions over a twenty year planning period (through 2010). Mr. Trusty also noted that, when the 208 Plan was last revised by the MAG Regional Council in 1993, a new provision for an annual review was included to ensure that the plan remains an up-to-date document; and the purpose of the report is to identify changes which have been made by local governments in their wastewater treatment systems since the adoption of the 1993 MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, in preparing the report, information was obtained from twenty-four cities and towns, Maricopa County, Luke Air Force Base and the Multi-City Subregional Operating Group for the 91st Avenue Wastewater Treatment System; and the Gila River Indian Community and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community were also contacted for input. However, Mr. Trusty noted that, the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) prepared a 208 Plan covering the entire Gila River Indian reservation, which was approved by EPA in 1982; and since the Gila River Indian Community has established its own 208 Plan, it will not be included as part of the MAG 208 Plan.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community recently joined the Maricopa Association of Governments and is in the process of developing an environmental program for their community; and based on their environmental program development, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community may participate in the next MAG review.

Mr. Trusty also indicated, MAG member agencies were requested to submit a copy of their adopted Capital Improvement Programs to MAG; and, in addition, contacts were initiated with the various entities to discuss any changes which have occurred since the 1993 MAG 208 Plan and any changes

that have occurred are identified in the report. Mr. Trusty also noted that, the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee may make a recommendation to the MAG Management Committee regarding the necessity of a 208 Plan amendment if appropriate.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, Chapter Two of the report contains the description of changes that have occurred since the 1993 MAG 208 Plan was completed and the individual descriptions for the jurisdictions are grouped into six categories consistent with the 208 Plan. Mr. Trusty also noted that, while it does not appear that any amendments to the 208 Plan are necessary at this time, some of the information collected indicates that there may be future requests for amendments to the 208 Plan by some member agencies.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, a reclamation wastewater treatment facility is still being planned, by the City of Avondale, to be constructed near the Agua Fria River and I-10; and the 208 Plan indicates that during the first phase, effluent will be discharged to the Agua Fria River. Also, Mr. Trusty noted that, since the capacity of the proposed reclamation wastewater treatment facility was not known at the time the 1993 208 Plan was completed, the City of Avondale may request that the new facility be approved through the Small Plant Review and Approval Process if the facility treats 2 million gallons per day (mgd) or less and provides total reclamation; and furthermore, if the new plant treats greater than 2 mgd of wastewater, the City of Avondale may request an amendment at the appropriate time for the new reclamation wastewater treatment facility.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, the City of Peoria is currently in the process of updating the Wastewater Master Plan which includes a four-plant wastewater system; and of these four, the North Central Planning area will be served by an expanded Beardsley Road Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Trusty noted that, projected plant buildout design capacity for the Beardsley Plant is 16.0 mgd; and current expansion plans are in progress to construct a 2.0 mgd addition to the existing facility to accommodate projected growth. Mr. Trusty also indicated that, the City of Peoria is planning to dispose of the expanded Beardsley Road Wastewater Treatment Plant effluent by discharging into the Agua Fria River and may submit a request for an amendment to the MAG 208 Plan upon adoption of the 1995 Wastewater Master Plan Update.

Mr. Trusty noted that, no significant wastewater system changes were reported by the City of Surprise since adoption of the 1993 MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan; and the 1993 MAG 208 Plan indicates that the South Surprise WWTP will be expanded during the planning period of 1990 to 2010 and that the plant will have a capacity of 3.2 mgd. Mr. Trusty also noted that, the City of Surprise may submit a request for an amendment to the 208 Plan for further expansion of the South Surprise WWTP to 7 or 8 mgd.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, since adoption of the 1993 MAG 208 Plan, the City of Mesa is the only jurisdiction which has requested an amendment to the 208 Plan; and on February 28, 1996, the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council approved the Northwest Water Reclamation Plant to provide for a discharge of 8 mgd of plant effluent into the Salt River.

Furthermore, Mr. Trusty indicated that, the City of Mesa may in the future request an amendment to the 208 Plan to expand the Northwest Water Reclamation Plant from a capacity of 16 mgd (as identified in the 1993 MAG 208 Plan) to an ultimate capacity of 24 mgd, plus adequate capacity for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Mr. Trusty noted that, the 208 Plan indicates that Mesa's Southeast Water Reclamation Plant will have a capacity of 12 mgd; and the plant is now being designed for expansion to 8 mgd (ultimate capacity will be 16 mgd). Mr. Trusty also noted that, the City of Mesa may in the future request an

amendment to the 208 Plan for further expansion of the Southeast Reclamation Plant to 16 mgd and to provide for discharge.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, the City is in the process of designing a new water reclamation plant (ultimate capacity will be 43 mgd) as a joint venture with Roosevelt Water Conservation District and the Towns of Gilbert and Queen Creek to be located in southeast Gilbert and constructed/operated by the City of Mesa; and this facility will rely primarily upon reuse and recharge for managing the effluent. Mr. Trusty added that, a NPDES permit is also planned for this facility for discharge of effluent into the East Maricopa Floodway and the Queen Creek; and the City of Mesa may also request an amendment to the 208 Plan for this proposed new water reclamation plant and its potential discharge.

Mr. Trusty noted that, the Town of Queen Creek requested approval for the proposed Chuparosa Wastewater Treatment Plant which is consistent with the MAG 208 Plan Small Plant Review and Approval Process; and the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council approved (on May 29, 1996) the proposed Chuparosa Wastewater Treatment Plant as part of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan. Mr. Trusty also noted that, the Chuparosa Wastewater Treatment Plant is proposed to serve the Chuparosa Subdivision until the Town of Queen Creek's system is on line; and it is projected that the Town of Queen Creek will connect to the Mesa Southeast Regional Facility during mid 1999.

Mr. Trusty noted that, the 208 Plan indicates that the City of Tempe Kyrene Water Reclamation Plant will be expanded to an ultimate capacity of 6 mgd; and the City now anticipates that within five years the treatment capacity at the Kyrene Reclamation Facility will be expanded to 9 mgd. Mr. Trusty indicated that, the City of Tempe may request an amendment to the 208 Plan for the anticipated increase in capacity of the Kyrene Water Reclamation Plant; and Tempe also plans to initiate the NPDES regulatory approval process within the next 120 days.

Mr. Trusty indicated that since adoption of the MAG 208 Plan, Maricopa County requested approval for the Arizona Factory Shops as a "small" wastewater treatment plant which is consistent with the MAG 208 Plan Small Plant Review and Approval Process; and the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council approved (on June 28, 1995) the proposed Arizona Factory Shops small wastewater treatment plant as part of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan. Mr. Trusty noted that the plant was located in an unincorporated area of Maricopa County near New River, which was more than three miles from any municipality; and since annexation, the City of Phoenix has agreed to allow the Arizona Factory Shops to continue to provide their own wastewater treatment. Mr. Trusty also noted that, the effluent produced by the plant will be reused and the ultimate capacity will be 50,000 gallons per day (gpd); and the Arizona Factory Shops have a Reuse Permit and a general Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) for Phase I and II flows. Mr. Trusty also noted that, a revised Reuse Permit and an individual Aquifer Protection Permit must be obtained for Phase III flows.

Mr. Trusty indicated that the City of Phoenix recently annexed the area north of the city where the Arizona Factory Shops are located; and since annexation, the City of Phoenix has agreed to allow the Arizona Factory Shops to continue to provide their own wastewater treatment.

Mr. Trusty also indicated that, Maricopa County also requested approval for Pleasant Harbor as a "small" wastewater treatment plant which is consistent with the MAG 208 Plan Small Plant Review and Approval Process; and the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council approved (on September 27, 1995) the proposed Pleasant Harbor Development small wastewater treatment plant as part of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, Phase I of the plant was expected to be constructed in 1995, however, plans for Phase I have not been completed to date; and as the service area expands with development, future Phases of the plant will be constructed accordingly. Mr. Trusty noted that, the Maricopa Water District currently operates the Pleasant Harbor WWTP. Mr. Trusty indicated that, although the area was annexed by the City of Peoria, the Maricopa Water District will continue to operate the facility.

Mr. Trusty indicated that, since the proposed Desert Hills Development wastewater treatment system near New River may be forthcoming, and is to be located in an unincorporated area of Maricopa County, the County has indicated that a request may be made to initiate the Small Plant Review and Approval Process for this facility if the plant treats 2 million gallons per day (mgd) or less and provides total reclamation; and if the proposed Desert Hills Development wastewater treatment system treats greater than 2 mgd or discharges, the County may submit a request for an amendment to the 208 Plan.

Mr. Trusty noted that in accordance with the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan, this annual review was conducted to identify changes which have occurred since the Plan was adopted in 1993; and based upon the review, it does not appear that significant changes were made in the local wastewater treatment systems. Mr. Trusty also noted that, originally it was thought that a lot of changes would occur, but we found there were not many changes made since 1993; and it was also envisioned in the 1993 208 Plan, that the plan review would be conducted on an annual basis. Mr. Trusty indicated that, this would afford an opportunity to prepare an annual amendment to the 208 Plan to incorporate significant changes, or to process several individual amendments simultaneously; and since there were not many changes over a 3 year period, the Plan could be reviewed every two years, or “as deemed necessary,” which would also keep the 208 Plan an up-to-date document.

Mr. Trusty then requested the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee to make two recommendations; first, a recommendation on the necessity of a 208 Plan amendment (at this time) and secondly, a recommendation as to the frequency of conducting subsequent reviews of the 208 Plan.

Jim Kaylor, City of Glendale, asked how long it takes to complete the 208 Plan annual review. Patrick Trusty, MAG, indicated that it took approximately 10 months. However, Lindy Bauer, MAG, indicated that the time it takes to obtain and review Capital Improvement Programs from each entity must be added to this time frame.

Mr. Kaylor asked for comments from the committee. Mr. Power stated that a review every year seemed excessive. Mr. Kaylor added that it takes 2-3 years to build a plant and that he felt a review every 2 years would be acceptable.

Eugene T. Jensen, Sun City Citizen Representative, noted that Sun City West has changed treatment capacity since the 1993 208 Plan was completed. Mr. Jensen also suggested that the Federal Prison System should report their wastewater treatment activities for the New River facility and to be included in the MAG 208 Plan.

Mr. Kaylor recommended a motion that the review of the MAG 208 Plan be conducted every two years and, as the 208 Plan exists today, does not need an amendment. There was no opposition. John Power, Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services, moved, Elaine Arena, City of Scottsdale Citizen Representative, seconded and it was unanimously passed by the Committee to

conduct the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan review every two years and that no amendment to the 208 Plan was needed at this time.

4. Arizona Department of Water Resources Third Management Plan

Mr. Kaylor introduced Jackie Nolan, Department of Water Resources. Ms. Nolan identified herself as being from the Third Management Plan Development Group at the Department of Water Resources and that she would present an overview of the Arizona Groundwater Management Code and the Third Management Plan Development Process.

Ms. Nolan noted that the Groundwater Management Code, passed in 1980, established three levels of water management. The highest level applies to Active Management Areas, where groundwater overdraft is most severe. Ms. Nolan indicated that the five Active Management Areas in Arizona are Prescott AMA, Phoenix AMA, Pinal AMA, Tucson AMA, and Santa Cruz AMA and that boundaries are formed by groundwater basins and sub basins.

Ms. Nolan noted that, the Code established three primary goals: to control the severe overdraft currently occurring in many parts of Arizona, to provide a means to allocate the state's limited groundwater resources to effectively meet the changing needs of the state, and to augment Arizona's groundwater through water supply development.

Ms. Nolan added that, the primary management goal of the Phoenix AMA is to achieve safe-yield by the year 2025 and defined safe-yield as a long term balance between the annual amount of groundwater withdrawn in the AMA and the annual amount of natural and artificial recharge.

Ms. Nolan indicated, the Department of Water Resources works closely with Arizona's Department of Environmental Quality to develop programs to protect groundwater quality. Beginning with the Second Management Period, DWR's role in evaluating groundwater quality in the AMAs became established. Ms. Nolan also noted, the Department is concerned with the impacts that poor quality or contaminated groundwater may have on future groundwater supplies; and therefore, it is essential to fully assess the quality of groundwater and any potential pollution problems that may occur in the future. Ms. Nolan pointed out that, the Code requires DWR to develop and implement water conservation requirements for agricultural, municipal, and industrial water users over five consecutive periods, and therefore, four successive ten year plans and a final five year plan will be developed to assist and guide the AMAs in meeting their specific goals. Ms. Nolan also noted that Second Management Period is nearing the end and work is being done to develop the Third Management Plan. The date for promulgation of the Third Management Plan is January 1, 1998.

Ms. Nolan indicated that the management plan will include:

- as part of the Agricultural section - a new irrigation water duty for each farm unit to be reached by the end of the third management period.
- in the Municipal section - additional reasonable reductions in per capita use to those required in the Second Management Plan and a non-per capita conservation program for municipal providers.
- in the Industrial section - use of or establishment of conservation requirements based on the use of the latest commercially available conservation technology consistent with reasonable economic return.
- a program for additional augmentation of water supply of the AMA, if feasible, including incentives for artificial groundwater recharge.
- in cooperation with ADEQ, an assessment of the groundwater quality in each AMA and a proposal of programs for groundwater quality protection, also plume management.

- provision of a fund to purchase and retire irrigated farmland after the year 2006 (groundwater withdrawal fee will help fund this).
- requirement of demonstration of an assured supply of water for any subdivided or non-subdivided land for sale or lease.

Ms. Nolan indicated that, the Third Management Plan Development Process involves three phases which include: data collection and analysis, program and issue development, and plan formulation. Ms. Nolan goes on to say, the first phase, data collection and analysis, is almost completed and will result in a State of the AMA report, produced by each AMA, which should be ready for distribution by the end of summer. Ms. Nolan also noted that some of the major issues which can impact the water budget are demand and supply issues.

Ms. Nolan goes on to say that, the second phase of the planning process involves program and issue development and at this stage, public participation is essential to the success of DWR's efforts. Ms. Nolan notes that, the third and final phase of the plan development process entails the formulation of the plan, including program development. Ms. Nolan indicated that, DWR would like to take a more regional, sub-basin approach to the Third Management Plan to help the AMAs meet their safe yield goal. Ms. Nolan noted that, each water use sector (municipal, industrial, agricultural) could be managed in a more localized manner, allowing us to more closely examine all uses of water within a sub-basin, along with the interrelationships between the water use sectors. In conclusion, Ms. Nolan indicated that DWR encourages conservation of all water supplies as an important means for achieving safe-yield.

5. Call to the Public

Mr. Kaylor provided an opportunity for members of the public to address the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee. No comments were presented. With no further comments, Jim Kaylor, City of Glendale, moved and Mr. Nelson, seconded and it was unanimously passed and the meeting was adjourned.